

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1.5% (1,785) of these admissions resided in the Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District. 6% (116) of admissions from the Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 78% were male and 22% were female.
- 56% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 79% were white non-Latino, 10% were black non-Latino, 7% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 69% were never married, 10% were married, and 20% reported not to be married now.
- 30% had less than high school education, 47% completed high school, and 23% had more than high school education.
- 15% were employed.
- 25% were homeless.
- 26% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	45%	36%	6%	5%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003 Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,320	1,122	458	544	308	333	203
FY '96	1,289	1,095	430	445	309	373	246
FY '97	1,239	1,031	381	407	300	392	268
FY '98	1,080	875	369	346	197	365	264
FY '99	1,031	814	324	341	183	394	298
FY '00	1,120	833	320	332	151	426	324
FY '01	1,332	1,024	387	425	214	604	460
FY '02	1,339	982	356	414	239	577	466
FY '03	1,785	1,214	541	518	267	793	622

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Twenty-seventh Middlesex Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

